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REPORT

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DATE OF INFORMATION 1951

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

CRITICIZE MACHINE INDUSTRY;
ACTIVATE RAILROAD X-RAY CAR

The Hungarian National Statistical Office has announced that the machine industry has failed to meet its plan for the first quarter of 1951.

Practically all present agreed that in many cases the failure was due to the activities of "enemies." The enemies who sabotage production are mostly right-wing Social Democrats.

Grave mistakes were reported in production schedules: certain machine parts are produced ahead of time because work on them assures the workers a good income, while unpopular items essential to the fulfillment of the plan are neglected. Some criticized the long wait for tools, plans, and materials, and the fact that the workers' suggestions are often disregarded.

The conferees concluded that in many cases, higher executives do not delegate authority properly. The director of an enterprise may issue orders in a shop without the knowledge of the production manager. A production manager cannot be held responsible for his work if he is uninformed. Production managers have no authority to discipline the workers. This often leads to very poor discipline.

Mistakes can often be traced to faulty planning. The planners are often unfamiliar with plant conditions, and their plans are impossible to carry out.

Quality control and inspection are poor. Defective products pass undetected through several inspections.

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Production is uneven. At the beginning of the month there is little work, while toward the end of the month the management tries to make up for the lag by overtime and other costly methods.

When plans are changed during production, the quantity of waste becomes very large. Thousands of machine parts suddenly become useless because the plans have been changed.

Raw materials are not delivered on time, and this holds up production. The quality of raw materials is often poor, and time must be spent on repairs and preparation.

In certain cases, the ministry supervising the industry over-organizes, while at other times it is negligent. The ministry often requires too much administrative and statistical work.

Technical personnel should be relieved completely of administrative work. Sometimes they are absent from the shops for days because they are burdened with administrative details.

The labor unions were not mentioned during the meeting at all. This shows that the workers do not really understand the role of labor unions.

PUTS IN SERVICE FIRST MOBILE X-RAY LABORATORY -- Budapest, Nepszava,
26 Apr 51

The Hungarian State Railroads have put in service the first mobile X-ray laboratory. The laboratory was developed at a cost of 2 million forints and is mounted on a railroad car. The laboratory is taken to repair shops, where it is used to inspect parts.

Except for the USSR, Hungary is the only country in Europe which owns a mobile laboratory of this type.

Considering the size of the parts to be inspected, the X-ray pictures have to be taken outside the car. The car contains a darkroom, a control cabin, and sleeping accommodations for its crew of four. In order to protect the crew against the effects of X-rays, the sides, floor, and ceiling of the darkroom and control cabin are lined with a lead coating 5 millimeters thick. The X-ray machine operates at a voltage of 250,000 volts and is capable of penetrating iron and steel plates 15-20 millimeters thick.

During 1951, the laboratory will be used to inspect 900 boilers.

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